

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 OPIC-03

TRSE-00 EB-07 IO-10 NIC-01 ACDA-05 /093 W

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O R 141338Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2088

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMBASSY PARIS 2048

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: COUP AFTERMATH: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

1. REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL TO CONTROL PARTIES:

THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (RC) HAS ASSUMED POWERS WHICH WERE TO  
BE GRANTED TO THE NATIONAL SALVATION JUNTA (CONSTITUTIONAL  
LAW 4/75 OF MARCH 6 WHICH PUBLISHED ONLY YESTERDAY ) TO "ASSURE  
THE REGULARITY" OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS. RC GIVEN RIGHT TO

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SUSPEND POLITICAL PARTIES WHOSE BEHAVIOR OR PROGRAM CONTRAVENES

THE AFM PROGRAM, OR WHICH UPSET AFM DISCIPLINE OR INCITE VIOLENCE (SEPTEL).

2. COMMISSION OF INQUIRY BEGINS WORK:

THE WORK OF THE RECENTLY CREATED COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE MARCH 11 ATTEMPTED COUP HAS BEGUN. THE COMMISSION, HEADED BY ADMIRAL ROSA COUTINHO, WHO WILL DEVOTE FULL TIME TO THE INVESTIGATION, CONTAINS 6 OFFICERS AND TWO SERGEANTS FROM THE THREE ARMED SERVICES. NAMES OF THOSE ON THE COMMISSION NOT PUBLISHED FOR "SECURITY REASONS", ACCORDING TO A MILITARY SPOKESMAN. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THE COMMISSION MUST CONCLUDE ITS INVESTIGATION WITHIN ONE MONTH AT THE MAXIMUM. AT ITS FIRST SESSION MARCH 13 THE COMMISSION RECEIVED TESTIMONY FROM GEN. GALVAO DE MELO WHO, A MILITARY OFFICER LATER TOLD PRESS, WAS NOT INVOLVED IN THE PLOT TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT.

3. MINISTERIAL CHANGES:

NO MINISTERIAL CHANGES HAVE YET OCCURRED SINCE THE MARH 11 EVENTS, BUT THEY APPEAR IMMINENT. REORGANIZATION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ALONG AFM LINES ALREADY ANNOUNCED (LISBON 1349).

4. SOCIALISTS AND COMMUNISTS MEET:

JUST PRIOR TO THE ATTEMPTED COUP, THE SOCIALIST PARTY ACCEPTED A COMMUNIST BID TO HOLD TALKS WITH A VIEW TOWARDS IMPROVING INTERPARTY RELATIONS. THE FIRST MEETING BETWEEN THE TOP LEADERS OF THE TWO PARTIES TOOK PLACE MARCH 13, AFTER WHICH PARTIES ISSUED AN UNINFORMATIVE COMMUNIQUE STATING THAT THE POLITICAL SITUATION AND DEMOCRATIC PROSPECTS WERE DISCUSSED. THE TWO PARTIES ALSO STATED THEIR AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE SUMMIT MEETINGS TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS OF COMMON INTEREST IN THE FUTURE.

5. SITUATION OF CDS AND PDC:

CDS PRESIDENT DIOGO FREITAS DO AMARAL HAS RETURNED TO PORTUGAL FROM LONDON. HE AND 8 OTHER CDS LEADERS ATTEMPTED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO SEE THE PRESIDENT MARCH 13. INSTEAD THEY GOT WHAT APPEARS TO BE A QUICK BRUSH OFF FROM PINTO SOARES OF THE AFM PROGRAM COORDINATING COMMITTEE. WE KNOW OF NO ARREST ORDER FOR CDS LEADERS. ON THE OTHER HAND, COCPON HAS ISSUED AN ARREST ORDER FOR PDC SECRETARY-GENERAL SANCHES OSORIO, WHO HAS NOT BEEN SEEN SINCE MARCH 10 ACCORDING TO A PDDC COMMUNIQUE. UNTIL NOW, NEITHER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE CDS OR THE PDC HAS INDICATED VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL FROM THE POLITICAL SCENE, DESPITE THE ATTACKS ON THEIR BUILDINGS.

6. NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION:

SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 15 HAS BEEN POSTPONED BY DECISION OF THE NON-POLITICAL PARTY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMMISSION. NO DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE NEC. THE NEC SESSION MARCH 13 ENDED

ABRUPTLY AFTER THE MRPP ORPOSED THE EXPULSION OF THE CDS AND  
PDC REPRESENTATIVES.

7. OTHER POLITICAL PARTY DEVELOPMENTS:

THE SUPREME COURT HAS TAKEN ON THE TOUCHY TASK OF DECIDING  
WHICH POLITICAL PARTIES MAY USE WHAT SYMBOL ON THE BALLOT AND  
IN THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN. THE MARXIST FAR LEFT PARTIES EACH SEEK  
TO USE THE HAMMER AND SICKLE. THE COMMUNIST PARTY OPPOSES USE BY  
OTHER PARTIES OF ITS SYMBOL, PROBABLY FEARING THE ELECTORATE WILL  
BE CONFUSED WHEN CONFRONTED BY A BALLOT FILLED WITH VARIATIONS ON  
THE HAMMER AND SICKLE THEME. THE LAW ESTABLISHES THE PRINCIPLE  
THAT NO TWO PARTIES MAY USE SIMILAR SYMBOLS.

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## Message Attributes

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